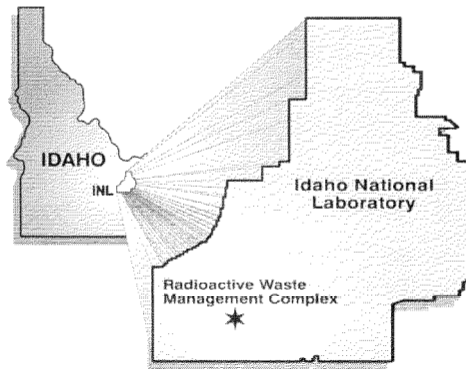


Public Encouraged to Attend Meetings on Buried Waste Project



Radioactive and hazardous waste, buried since the 1960s at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho site, is currently being retrieved, repackaged, and will be shipped out of Idaho. With your input, buried waste retrieval operations may be expanded.

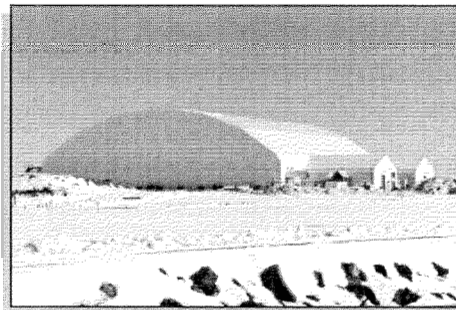
DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality are holding meetings in March to discuss buried waste retrieval efforts with the public. Waste retrieval began in a half-acre area of the Radioactive Waste Management Complex in January at a disposal site known as Pit 4.

A 30-day public comment period begins March 1 on a plan (called an engineering evaluation/cost analysis) that outlines a proposal to expand buried waste retrieval activities in the eastern portion of Pit 4 and part of Pit 6. In the 1960s, these two pits received

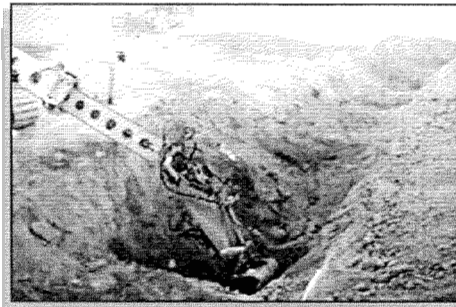
primarily Cold War weapons production waste from the Rocky Flats Plant in Colorado.

Additional information is available in the Administrative Record file for Operable Unit 7-13/-14. The Administrative Record is located at the DOE Reading Room of the INEEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and at Albertsons Library at the Boise State University campus. The Administrative Record can also be accessed via the Internet by typing <http://ar.inel.gov/home.html>

The Accelerated Retrieval Project weather enclosure at RWMC.



Waste being excavated as part of the Accelerated Retrieval Project.



Meetings will take place in Idaho Falls (March 8; Shilo Inn), Twin Falls (March 9; College of Southern Idaho, Taylor Student Union Building), and Boise (March 10; Doubletree Riverside). Additional meetings may be added as requested. All meetings will have a 6:30 p.m. availability session, where the public can meet with agency project managers, followed by a 7 p.m. presentation. Official oral comments will be recorded at the meetings.

For further information, call (208) 526-4700 or visit the Idaho Completion Project web site at <http://cleanup.inel.gov>



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